

REMARKS

Claims 11-15 are pending in the present amendments.

Claims 1-10 are canceled

The claims are believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth herein. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Norton '532 in view of Walker '964.

Norton is cited as disclosing the cultivator but, as stated by the Office, fails to disclose the plow elements having two portions meeting at a cutting edge. Walker is cited as illustrating plow elements having two portions meeting at a cutting edge.

The Office has opined that the previous arguments are not persuasive. In particular, the Office holds to the correct premise set forth in *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981), that the test for obviousness is what the combined teachings of the references would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art. Applicant respectfully submits that the Keller test is not met by the cited art and that the cited

references lead one in a direction contrary to that which the Office has stated.

Walker is cited as showing plow elements having two portions meeting at a cutting edge. Applicant directs the attention of the Office to Figs. 1 and 2. Fig. 1 is a top view with the junction of the cutting elements obscured from view. Applicant also directs the attention of the Office to Fig. 4 of Gibbs; Fig. 1 of Williams; Fig. 1 of Lewison '699; Fig. 2 of Steinberg; and Fig. 1 of Lewison '865. In each of these cited references the cutting elements meet at a flat face since this flat face is required for mounting the element to the shaft. Applicant further invites the Office to consider how each of plows shown in the references would appear in top view with the center portion obscured. One can only determine that they would appear very similar to the top view, Fig. 1, of Walker. The position taken by the Office that Walker shows plow elements having two portions meeting at a cutting edge can not be determined by Walker alone since the structure cited is obscured. The Office must therefore rely on additional teachings to conclude that the plow elements of Walker meet as stated.

The remaining art of record fails to support a plow element meeting at a cutting edge as claimed in the present invention. Each reference meets at a flat face since this is required for attachment of the plow.

The art relied on, and cited, does not teach that which the Office relies on in making the rejection. The only such teaching currently of record is that provided by the instant specification. Absent the instant specification one of skill in the art would have neither suggestion, nor motivation, for considering a plow with two plow portions meeting at a cutting edge. In fact, the prior art would lead one away from a cutting edge and towards a face since this is required as an attachment point as set forth in the accumulated art of record.

Claims 11-15 are believed to be patentable over the art of record for, at least, the reasons set forth herein. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully solicited.

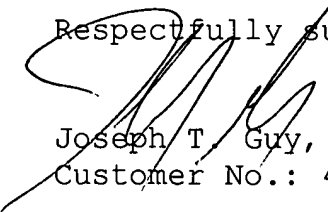
If a discussion with the Agent of record would be beneficial the Examiner is invited to contact the Agent for further discussions or to clarify any points hindering allowance.

CONCLUSIONS

Claims 11-15 are pending in the present application. All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


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